The year was quite free from cholera; but there was a mild out-break of small-pox in the Northern Division.

A Bill to amend the Towns Conservancy and Improvement Regulation is shortly to be introduced in the Legislative Council. The unlimited appropriation of the funds of the State for the conservancy and improvement of towns is wrong in principle and unfair to the general tax-payer. With a view to introduce Municipal Government in the towns it is proposed to establish Municipal Councils, as far as possible on an electoral basis, to invest these bodies with power to raise the necessary funds and to make them responsible for the proper sanitation of the urban areas entrusted to their care.

20. **Medical Relief.**—The number of permanent medical institutions remained the same as in the previous year, *viz.* 22 Hospitals, 20 Dispensaries, 2 Asylums for lunatics and lepers and 8 grant-in-aid institutions. The total number of in-patients treated during the year was over 16,000 and of out-patients over 7,00,000. Both figures show increases over those for the previous year.

A medical conference was held in July 1905. As the outcome of the conference the Weekly and Bi-weekly Dispensaries were abolished as they were found to serve no useful purpose. The rules regarding the admission to and promotion in the grade of Assistant and Sub-Assistant Surgeons were better defined and the status of these officers was improved. The designation of the Apothecaries in the Superior Grade (Graduates) was changed to "Sub-Assistant Surgeons". It was also decided to place the Maternity and the Women and Children's Hospitals under the control of the Lady Doctor. The opening of a Dispensary at Karamanay and of an Ophthalmic Hospital at the Capital were also sanctioned. These proposals will be given effect to during the current year.

At the suggestion of the Rt. Rev. Dr. Benziger, Bishop of Quilon, it has been decided to entertain 8 Nursing Sisters in the Medical Department.

*Veterinary Hospital.*—269 cases were admitted for treatment during the year. There was an outbreak of glanders in the town and two horses were destroyed under special arrangements, and the private stables are now being regularly inspected.

21. **Public Instruction.**—The total number of schools in 1080 was 3,630 and the total number of scholars 1,95,999 as against 3,727 and 1,97,385 respectively in 1079. While Government and Aided Schools have increased by 97 with 4,345 scholars, the private unaided schools have decreased by 194 with 5,731 scholars, resulting in a net reduction of 97 schools and 1,386 scholars from those of the previous year. The gradual decline of the private unaided schools has been a noteworthy feature of the last few years and is a matter rather for satisfaction than for regret. For, it shews, as was explained in last year's address, that the unscientific instruction imparted in the pial schools by the old *Asans* is giving place to the better training given in Government and Aided Schools.

The percentage of pupils under instruction to the total population was 6·6 which compares favourably with 1·99 in Mysore, 3·0 in all British India, 3·09 in Madras, 4·0 in Bengal and 6·2 in Bombay.

The expenditure on Education in 1080 was 9·56 per cent of the total revenue. In Baroda the percentage is 6·5, Bengal 1·17, Bombay 1·44 and Madras 1·33.

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Taking 15 per cent of the total population as representing the total school-going population, the percentage of boys under instruction to male population of school-going age is 66·4 and of girls under instruction to female population of school-going age is 21·6 in Travancore as compared with 26·3 and 4·6 respectively for Madras, 25·95 and 4·83 for Bombay, 28·25 and 2·26 for Bengal and 21·77 and 4·05 for Mysore.

In the year under review, the Government institutions were 3 Colleges with 307 students, 7 English High Schools with 2,867 pupils, 22 English Middle Schools with 2,798 pupils, 351 Boys' Vernacular Schools with 39,924 pupils and 68 Girls' Vernacular Schools with 7,202 pupils. Besides the above, there were 8 Special schools, having on their rolls 375 students. The Aided institutions were 16 English High Schools with 5,451 pupils, 21 English Middle Schools with 2,756 pupils, 1,064 Vernacular Schools with 52,727 pupils and 16 other institutions with 537 students. There were thus during the year 1,576 institutions either entirely or partly maintained from State funds, which gives on an average more than 50 schools to each taluk.

*Female Education.*—The total number of girls under instruction in 1080 was 47,570, that is, 1,238 more than in 1079. It is 13·2 per cent of the school-going girl population between the ages of 5 and 15, as compared with 12·8 in the previous year.

In the Normal School for Female Teachers, there were 13 students under training *viz.*, 3 for English Normal Certificates and the rest for Vernacular Higher and Lower Certificates. These students will complete their course during the current year and a fresh batch will be admitted for training early next January.

*Primary Education.*—In the year under report, there were 1,80,340 pupils in the Primary Department, which is 92 per cent of the total number under instruction and 46·5 per cent of the population between the ages of 5 and 10. The number of pupils in the Primary Department in 1079 was 1,83,328. The decrease in the number of pupils was due to the decrease in the number of private unaided schools noticed above, which affected chiefly the Primary Schools in the State.

*Education of Backward Classes.*—In pursuance of the policy of Government explained in last year's address, Government have awarded full-salary grants to 201 schools to an aggregate amount of Rs. 17,124 per annum. Government have also opened 20 Special schools for the education of these classes. There were 5,591 backward class pupils under instruction, distributed as follows:—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Pulayas | .... | 2,266 |
| Parayas | .... | 2,252 |
| Velans | .... | 457 |
| Kuravers | .... | 340 |
| Kannics | .... | 220 |
| Veddars | .... | 56 |

Four Normal Schools were opened during the year at Kottar, Trivandrum, Quilon and Kottayam, for the training of teachers for backward class schools, and 58

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students were under training in these institutions and were in receipt of stipends from Government. These students will complete their course by the end of the current academic year, when they will be sent out to teach backward class schools, and a fresh batch taken in their stead for training.

*Technical Education.*—There were 12 Technical Schools receiving aid from Government and imparting instruction in the various branches of Engineering, Industrial and Commercial subjects. The most important among them was the Sree Mula Rama Varma Technical Institute at Nagercoil to which Government have allowed a monthly grant of Rs. 455.

*The Industrial School of Arts* at Trivandrum had 15 apprentices under training. Several articles were sent up from this institution for the Bombay Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition, and for the Exhibition held at the East End of London. Articles worth Rs. 1,000 were sold, and gold and bronze medals were won at the former Exhibition.

*Technical Scholarships.*—Besides the Medical and Technical scholarships in Europe to which reference was made in last year's address, Government have granted a scholarship to a student in the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute at Bombay to study cotton manufacture, to another in the Poona College of Science to study for the B. Sc. and L. C. E. Degree Examinations, and to a third in the Engineering College at Madras to read for the B. E. Degree Examination.

*Agricultural Education.*—As stated in last year's address, instruction both in the theory and practice of agriculture is now being given in the Agricultural Demonstration Farm to the students of the Normal School for Male Teachers.

*His Highness the Maha Rajah's College and High School, Trivandrum.*—There were in the year under report 200 students in the College classes and 683 in the High School.

Last year's B. A. results were as follow:—

| | Appeared. | Passed. |
|---|---|---|
| English Branch .... .... | 19 | 18 |
| 2nd Language Branch .... .... | 26 | 24 |
| Optional Science Branch .... | 33 | 18 |

In the College Department the expenditure amounted to Rs. 58,219 and the income from fees to Rs. 9,379, thus entailing a net cost to Government of Rs. 48,840 or Rs. 244·2 per head. In the High School Department, the fee income exceeded the expenditure by Rs. 1,543.

Two new wings have been added to the main building of the institution, which provide a much needed relief to the previous congested state of the class rooms.

*The Law College.*—The scheme referred to in last year's address by which the College was to have been made a self-supporting one has not been given full effect to, owing to the non-provision elsewhere in the service, for one of the Permanent Professors of the College. The income from fees amounted to Rs. 10,857 and the expenditure to Rs. 14,435. The institution has thus cost Government Rs. 3,579 or Rs. 35·08 per student.

The strength of the College fell from 120 to 102 which is attributed by the officiating Principal "to the absence of proper hostels and residential quarters for students as well as to the increased rate of fees" levied from January last.

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Last year's results were as follow:—

| | Appeared. | Passed. |
|---|---|---|
| B. L. | 43 | 34 |
| F. L. | 53 | 22 |
| Pleadership | 44 | 26 |

*Girls' College.*—Last year there were 5 students in the College and 405 girls in the High School Department as against 4 and 419 respectively during the previous year. It is satisfactory to note that one student passed from the College in the First-in-Arts Examination, and she is the first Nair lady in Travancore who has become an Undergraduate. Of the two ladies who passed the Matriculation Examination, one is also a Nair lady, who is now prosecuting her studies in the College for the F. A. Examination. The total net expenditure incurred in connection with this institution was Rs. 18,743 or Rs. 45·8 per head.

*The Sanskrit College.*—There were 197 students in 1080 against 180 in the year previous. 26 candidates appeared for and 19 passed the tests in Sanskrit conducted by the Board of Examiners appointed by Government. The cost to Government on account of the institution was Rs. 9,160 against Rs. 8,833 in the year previous.

*The Reformatory.*—There were only 5 inmates at the end of 1080 against 10 in 1079. The institution cost Government Rs. 1,423 against Rs. 2,411 in 1079.

*Museum and Public Gardens.*—The Museum was visited by over 2 lakhs of people during the year. A dolphin purchased from the local fishermen was identified by the authorities of the British Museum, as a specimen hitherto unrecorded in the Indian Ocean, having been found previously only in the North Pacific Ocean.

Owing to a number of applications for gardeners from the general public, the Director proposes to start a class for gardeners who for a small fee will be trained and when fit be granted a certificate.

22. **State Life Insurance.**—420 proposals were received and 9 deaths registered during the year. A sum of Rs. 852 was paid as bonus, the total payments up to the end of the year amounting to Rs. 4,419.

23. **Mining.**—In 1080 as in the previous year there were three mines working in plumbago. A sum of B. Rs. 6,875 was realised by Government during the year in the shape of royalty and export duty.

24. **Finance.**—Last year I gave you a brief description of the system of Finance and Accounts that was thereto followed and pointed out what its main defects were and how unsuited it was to the requirements of a progressive administration conducted on modern lines. I also gave you an account of the steps taken to remedy those defects and of the changes and improvements proposed to be carried out during the year that has passed.

I now give below a brief account of the progress made up to date under the four main heads of the proposed system of Finance and Accounts referred to in my last year's address.

i. *Treasury Procedure.*—In addition to the general Circular orders issued at the commencement of the year, several departmental orders were issued from time to time for the guidance of the Treasuries. The various departments of Government, the Account Office and the Treasuries have now understood the

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